



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**Region 6**

**1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733**

October 17, 2012

Christopher Amy  
Texas Department of Transportation  
Corpus Christi District  
1701 South Padre Island Drive  
Corpus Christi, TX 78416

Dear Mr. Amy,

As a cooperating agency for the proposed US 181 Harbor Bridge Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is providing comments for the draft Chapter 1 Need and Purpose.

EPA has reviewed the draft Chapter 1 and provided our comments in the attached table as requested. As stated in our cooperating agency agreement, EPA anticipates that a cooperative team approach will streamline the environmental process and result in a high quality EIS. We look forward to continued involvement and cooperation in the EIS development for the Harbor Bridge project. If you have any further questions, please contact John MacFarlane or [macfarlane.john@epa.gov](mailto:macfarlane.john@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rhonda Smith", is written over a horizontal line.

Rhonda Smith  
Chief, Office of Planning  
and Coordination

Enclosure (1)

cc: Gregory Punske  
District Engineer, District B  
Federal Highway Administration

## Comment Response Matrix



Document Title	Harbor Bridge DEIS Preliminary Chapter 1 Need and Purpose			Preparer		Date	10-16-12	
Document Date				Organization	EPA Region 6, Dallas, TX	Due Date	11-10-12	
Commenter	John MacFarlane			Contact Information: email & phone	214-665-7491, macfarlane.john@epa.gov			
Item	Page	Section	Sent.	Comment / Recommended Solution	Criteria	How Addressed (or why not addressed)	New Page	QC check
1	2	1.1.2		EPA recommends the crash/accident rate and LOS data from the Coordination Plan be included. This data would strengthen the Need				
2	2	1.1.2		Under #1, EPA recommends a revision to the language to make it more clear that the bridge lacks shoulders. Example revision: "The existing Harbor Bridge <u>main span</u> and US 181 approaches."				
3	2	1.1.2		Under #1, EPA recommends adding more information regarding the current design standards for shoulders and their function in the overall safety of roadways.				
4								
5								
6								